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Editor's Note:

We value your input. If you have any comments on this newsletter or better yet, ideas for future articles, contact Susan Mekenney, Newsletter Editor at susan@movetovirginia.com

Not a member . .

Why Not?

With annual dues only \$15.00 per household, you can't afford not to be a member of CCVCA. Questions? Contact:

Cliff Keenan,
Home: 703-385-8797 or
Cell: 202-230-8210 or
cliffkeenan@gmail.com

President's Message

Diana Michel, CCVCA President

As we approach the holiday season, it always brings to mind for me that another year is almost over. I hope that most of us have had a good year, but if that is not the case, then I truly hope that 2016 will be better for you. There will be time for each of us to take stock of 2015 and contemplate changes and improvements for 2016!

Winter will soon be upon us. Please bring the spirit of compassion for all beings to the season. Do not leave pets outside in the cold and do check in on any neighbors and friends who might need some assistance in snow or ice. We had a wonderful spirit of community last winter where many neighbors helped one another – we hope that continues!

Enjoy the gifts that the winter brings and we hope all of you have a wonderful holiday season with family and friends celebrating whatever traditions and beliefs each of you may have.



CCVCA Annual Holiday Decorating Contest

It's that time of year again for CCVCA's annual holiday decorating contest. Judging is done by members of the CCVCA Women's Club and will take place on **December 16 with a rain date of December 17**. Please have your lights on by 7:00 pm. First prize - \$50; 2nd prize - \$35; 3rd prize - \$25. You **MUST** be a member of CCVCA to win. Judges will have applications with them if you wish to join CCVCA that evening,

If you are interested in knowing more about the Women's Club, please call Jean Brewer, Membership Chairman, at 703-978-5592

Congratulations to last year's winners:

Richard & Joanne Eyer, 5220 Grinnell Street

Don and Marie-France Weber, 5203 Concordia Street

John Kuzin & Bernadette Mahon, 5212 Gadsen Street

Join in the holiday spirit and make our community really lovely this year!

About the CCVCA Newsletter

The Country Club View Civic Association Newsletter is published quarterly. To advertise or submit articles or suggestions, contact Susan Mekenney at susan@movetovirginia.com. CCVCA reserves the right to not publish any material it deems inappropriate.

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2016 Civic Association Scholarship

Bob Mizer, Scholarship Chair

Each year CCVCA awards a non-renewable \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior whose family is a member of the Civic Association. The Paul Maltagliati Memorial Scholarship is awarded based on academic achievement, participation in school and community activities, a short essay, and an interview. **Applications will be due no later than March 21, 2016.** Applications will be available on Nextdoor.com and from the scholarship committee chair starting December 1st. The application provides details about the process and required documentation. All seniors, regardless of school attended or home schooled, are eligible. Questions? Contact Bob Mizer at 703-425-9607.

Holiday Safety Tips

Bob Mizer, Public Service & Neighborhood Watch

Be sure your holidays are happy and safe by:

- Keeping your fresh tree well-watered
- Using only UL approved lights and not overloading circuits
- Turning off all lights & electrical decorations before bedtime
- Limiting the use of extension cords
- Not using candles as decorations
- Disposing of fireplace ashes outside, away from the home, and in a metal container
- Never leaving candles burning when you are not in the room
- Keeping candles away from combustible materials and in a glass or ceramic container

If you do need assistance from the Fire and Rescue Department you can help by making sure your address is clearly visible from the street. When there is snow on the ground clear the snow from around the fire hydrants near your home.

Be a GOOD CITIZEN!

Diane Carnahan, Welcoming Committee

We've noticed a lot of trash on the ground near the access point of University Mall at Gadsen Drive. If you see trash there, consider picking it up and disposing of it at home. You might even take an extra plastic bag in your pocket when you walk in case you find a discarded item on the ground. We all appreciate the new look at the mall and want to keep it that way.

Did You Know? Leaves Don't Belong in the Sewer

Diana Michel, CCVCA President

It was recently brought to the attention of Civic Association Board, that a person hired in the community to do yard work was blowing leaves into the storm drain. The county suggested we reach out to the community and educate everyone on what the county rules are regarding leaf disposal. Not too many folks are aware that the Storm water Management Ordinance Chapter 124 prohibits leaves to be blown into streams or storm drains. Excessive amount of leaves can clog storm drains, interfere with aquatic life that live in the streams, and add too much organic matter to the streams. Here is the ordinance:

Section 124-9-3. - Illicit Discharges to the Storm Sewer System and State Waters.

A. It shall be unlawful for any Person to discharge or deposit, or to cause **or allow to be discharged or deposited any wastes, trash, leaves, grass clippings**, soil, oil, petroleum products, noxious or flammable substances, or any matter causing or adding pollution in any state waters of this County or on any property in this County in any manner so as to allow any such substance to be washed into state waters by storm or flood water. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the discharge or deposit of waste in state waters when such discharging has been approved by a state agency.

B. It shall be unlawful for any Person to discharge or deposit, or to cause or allow to be discharged or deposited in the County MS4, any wastes, trash, leaves, grass clippings, oil, petroleum products, noxious or flammable substances, or any matter causing or adding pollution; provided however, that leaves may be piled at curbs during such seasons and in such areas as may now or in the future be furnished mechanical leaf collection service. It is the intent of this provision to prohibit the entry into the County MS4 of any substance, whether solid or liquid, other than naturally occurring surface or subsurface waters.

C. It shall be unlawful to connect any plumbing fixtures, drains, appurtenances, or appliances that discharge any substance other than storm water into the County MS4. (08-14-124.)

A New Addition to Country Club View—"Little Free Library"

Thanks to the efforts of **Nate and Leigh Bergman**, Country Club View now has its very own "Little Free Library". For those of you who have never heard of this a "Little Free Library" is a "take a book, return a book" free book exchange. In its most basic form, it's a wooden box of books where anyone may pick up a book or two, or bring a book to share.

Little Free Library book exchanges have a unique, personal touch and there is an understanding that real people are sharing their favorite books with their community. These aren't just any old books; this is a carefully curated collection. The Library itself is a piece of neighborhood art that acts like a mini-town square.

Anyone may contribute or take books. The more the merrier! If you take a book (or two) from our Library, you do not need to return that exact book. However, in order to keep the Little Library full of good choices for the whole neighborhood, the next time you swing by the Library bring a few books to share. Little Library book exchanges function on the honor system; everyone contributes to ensure there are always quality books inside. This way, we all win!

The library is located at 5106 Sideburn Road just across from Robinson H.S. Soccer Fields. The intention of the library is to bring neighbors together as well as to promote reading.

MEET A WONDERFUL NEIGHBOR

Sheila Coffin, CCVCA Secretary

Retired? Working from home? Looking for intellectual and social stimulation? . . . You need to meet OLLI. It is less than one mile from Country Club View yet most don't even know it exists.

Discover the incredible social, cultural and academic opportunities offered by the nearby **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI)**, an affiliate of George Mason University. This 1000+ member nonprofit organization, located on Roberts Road between Braddock Road and Main Street (Route 236), offers you the opportunity to:

- Take fun classes on a wide variety of sophisticated subjects – with NO homework, grades or exams, just learning for the pure joy of learning.
- Meet other smart, curious people of all ages (retired, work-at-homers, whatever – no age requirement).
- Hear noteworthy speakers (many of them GMU professors) and socialize in special interest clubs and activities.

For people who love to learn, OLLI is a dream come true. You can take classes in “Anything 101” – acting, history, Broadway movies, Latin, writing. There are also concert series, special presentations by National Park Rangers, & opportunities to hang out in OLLI's Social Annex, where you can enjoy free coffee & cookies with other members.

Visit the website at <http://www.oli.gmu.edu/> or Google “OLLI GMU” and check out the options. Take a look at the catalog of classes and if your curiosity is piqued, sample a class or two for FREE by calling 703-503-3384.

The best part of OLLI is meeting so many interesting people you might never have known otherwise. Members include retired teacher, federal employees, as well as plenty of PhDs and the occasional Pulitzer-prize-winning author. What they all have in common is wanting to have fun learning and sharing knowledge. Quite a few CCVCA members are very active at OLLI – ask around – you will be surprised with how many you know.

Keep Country Club View Safe During the Holidays . . . and Beyond

Bob Mizer, Public Service and Neighborhood Watch

Neighborhood Watch needs individuals/ couples to patrol the neighborhood for **two hours three times a year**. We know everyone has commitments but we are asking you to find six hours a year to help keep your community safe. We also need people to call watch standers the week before they are scheduled to remind them of the watch.

As the Holidays approach, remember there are people out there who are waiting to steal packages delivered to your home by UPS, FEDEX, and the Postal Service. If you are expecting an especially valuable delivery you may want to consider having it held for pick up. At a minimum let a neighbor know you are expecting packages and have them take them in. Don't leave packages visible in your car when you are out shopping. Park in a lighted area and be sure to lock your vehicle.

Beware . . . University Mall Towing Policy . . . Beware

University Mall restricts parking to Mall customers and employees. That means people who use the Mall for parking for carpooling, taking a bus, or for George Mason events, are subject to towing. The cost to recover your car is very high. The towing company monitors the Mall parking on a regular basis.

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Giving Seniors the “Gift of a Lift”

NV Rides is a new initiative that works with community based organizations administering volunteer driver programs for non-driving senior adults throughout the region, allowing them to age in place, and maintain their independence longer. These rides allow residents to get to medical appointments and the grocery store. NV Rides will increase the number of rides available to senior adults in Northern Virginia by assisting existing community-based organizations to run more efficient volunteer driver programs and to recruit more volunteers. The goal is to ensure that no senior in need of a ride will be turned away for lack of volunteer drivers.

NV Rides is partnering with the Shepherd’s Center of Annandale-Springfield to support non-driving senior adults. Volunteer drivers give non-driving seniors the “gift of a lift”. We will be hosting an Informational Session at:

The Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia (the J) at 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax from 11:45am -12:45pm on Monday, January 27, 2016

Be Thankful

Be thankful that you don’t already have everything you desire.

If you did, what would there be to look forward to?

Be thankful when you don’t know something,
for it gives you the opportunity to learn.

Be thankful for the difficult times.

During those times you grow.

Be thankful for your limitation,
because they give you opportunities for improvement.

Be thankful for each new challenge,
because it will build your strength and character.

Be thankful for your mistakes.

They will teach you valuable lessons.

Be thankful when you’re tired and weary,
because it means you’ve made a difference.

It’s easy to be thankful for the good things.
A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who
are also thankful for the setbacks.

Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive.

Find a way to be thankful for your troubles,
and they can become your blessings.

Author Unknown

Season Greetings to you and yours from the Belles of St. Mary.



Rosemarie Johnson
703-346-1721

Susan Mekenney
703-283-6881



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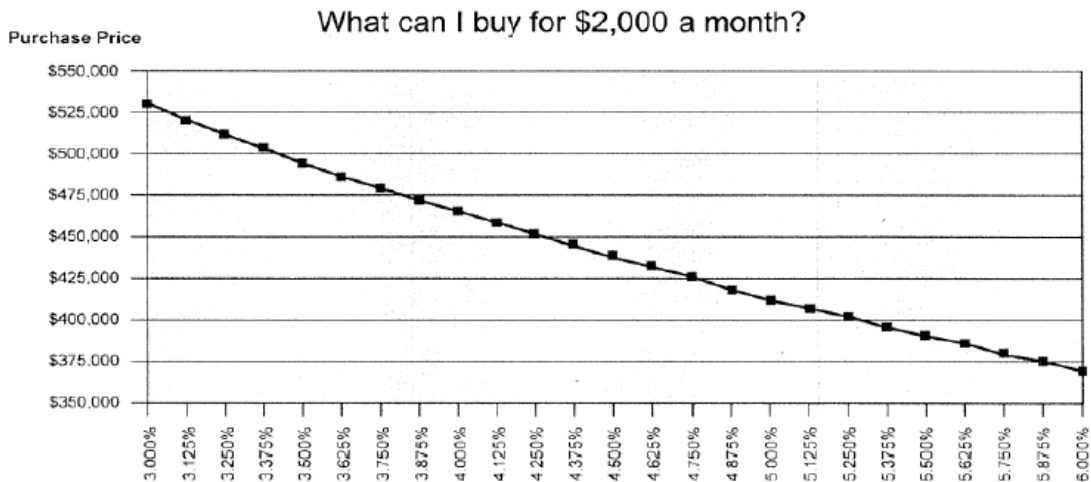
-Brunch with Santa-
Sunday December 20th from 11am-1pm
Brunch Buffet is All You Care to Eat from 10-2pm
Make your reservation today! Goody bags for the kids!

-New Years Eve-
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-December Monthly Special-
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The Effect of Interest Rates on Buying Power



Source: Weichert Financial Services 2012. Based on a 30 year fixed rate mortgage, including 10% down payment.

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